

Short CATECHISM,

Chiefly design'd for the

Instructing of Little Children

I N T H E

Doctrines of *Jesus Christ*.

*And these Words which I command thee this Day,
shall be in thine Heart, and thou shalt teach
them diligently unto thy Children. Deut. vi. 6.*

*Train up a Child in the Way he should go, and
when he is old he will not depart from it. Prov.
xxii. 6.*

By *JOHN CENNICK*,

Late of Reading in Berkshire.

L O N D O N :

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To such Parents as have Children, and
wou'd bring them up in the Nur-
ture and Admonition of the Lord, I
send hearty greeting.

My dear Friends,

IF you are minded your little ones should learn
this Catechism; when they have got Part of
it (after you have ask'd them a Question) it wou'd
be well for you to explain from your own Expe-
rience the Answer, and who knows but while you
are labouring with them, they may be awakened to
the Understanding of the great Mystery of our
Salvation by *Christ Jesus* alone, and to the attain-
ing everlasting Life; then shall ye have Joy over
them in the Lord, and be called of your Children,
and of God himself, blessed among Men, blessed
among Women. *So wishes your Brother and Ser-
vant in Christ,*



J. CENNICK.

P R E F A C E

TO THE

Little Children.

My dear little Children,

I Hope before ever you read this Catechism, or endeavour to learn it, you will pray our Saviour to give you his Holy Spirit, that you may understand all the Words that are in this Book, and so be made wise unto everlasting Life.

If you were to know all the holy Scriptures in your Head, and could repeat every Chapter without Book, yet if you had not received the Holy Ghost in your Heart to shew you the Meaning of every Place, you would not be the better for all your Head knowledge.

A great many People in the World know a good deal about Christ, and talk much about his Death, and his Blood, and make a great Stir about their being brought up in the Church, and taught the Scriptures, and all this Time are only puffed up in spiritual Pride, because very often they don't know that Jesus Christ is in their Hearts, nor do they understand what his Prophets and Apostles and Ministers mean. Such think if they do but read a good many Chapters, and say their Prayers, and talk about what they have been reading, that is enough, but they are deceiv'd; for except they have believed our dear Saviour was born for them, and loved them, and died to take away their Sins, all their Talking is nothing. Some People say we must not know Christ 'till we die, and that no Body receives the Holy Ghost and the Remission of their Sins 'till they die;

die; but this is all of the Devil; and such Men are the very Men of whom St. Paul warned Timothy, when he said there were some who had the Form of Godliness, but denied the Power thereof. 2 Tim. iii. 5. But, my dear little Brethren, you will find the Scriptures teach you, that if you have not Christ in you, then you are reprobate, and don't belong to our Saviour. When a Man believes truly in the Lord Jesus, he receives Christ in him, and is justified; that is, he is cleared from his Sins before God, and the Righteousness of Christ is imputed to him, and he is at Peace with God thro' our Lord Jesus Christ. Rom. v. 1. The chief Doctrines of God I have set down in the following Book, namely, that tho' the Father is God, the Son Jesus Christ is God, and the Holy Ghost is God, yet there is but one God, and no Body can understand this but true Believers, who are in God, and know him. Now no Man can be acquainted with God, or come to him, but by the Revelation of Jesus Christ, for in Christ dwelleth all the Fulness of the Godhead, and, whosoever don't worship Jesus Christ, and honour him, and pray to him, do not honour God, neither will the Lord be pleased with such, for the Father looks that all Men should honour our Saviour Jesus Christ, even as they honour him. Whoever therefore gets to know Christ, he knows God, and no other; and he is right, and will go to Heaven, and no other. Again, I have shewed you how we are to be saved by him alone, and that whosoever believeth in him hath the Witness of his Spirit in himself. I know you cannot understand any of these Things as I told you before, unless the Spirit of God (which at first indited the Scriptures) open your Understanding. This I hope he will do, and that he may do this, shall be the constant Prayer of your loving Brother and Servant in Jesus Christ,

J. CENNICK.

A

Short Catechism, &c.

SECT. I.

Of GOD.

Q. **W**HO made the World, and all the Things in the World?

A. *He who built all Things is God.* Heb. iii. 4.

Q. What is God?

A. *God is a Spirit.* John iv. 24.

Q. Hath any Body ever seen him?

A. *No Man hath seen God at any Time.* John i. 18.

Q. How then can one tell there is a God?

A. *The Heavens declare the Glory of God, and the Firmament sheweth his handy-work.* Psalm xix. 1.

Q. But do not some deny God?

A. *Yes, the Fool saith in his Heart there is no God.* Psalm liii. 1.

Q. How will it go with such?

A. *They are without Excuse.* Rom. i. 20.

Q. Why so?

A. *Because that which may be known of God is manifest in them, for God hath shewed it unto them: For the invisible Things of him from the Creation of the World are clearly seen, being understood by the Things that are made, even his eternal Power, and Godhead.* Rom. i. 19, 20.

Q. Is God without Beginning?

A. *The Lord is from everlasting.* Hab. i. 12.

Q. What is the Lord's Name?

A. *I AM. JEHOVAH.* Exod. iii. 14, and vi. 3.

Q. What is the Meaning of his Name?

A. *Which was, and which is, and which is to come.* Rev. i. 8.

Q. Are

Q. Are there more Gods beside the Lord?

A. *There is none other God but one.* 1 Cor. viii. 4.

Q. Hath God any Son?

A. *The Scriptures are written, that ye might believe that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God.* John xx. 31.

Q. What is he called?

A. *Immanuel.* Matt. i. 23.

Q. What doth that Name signify?

A. *That being interpreted, is, God with us.* Matt. i. 23.

Q. Is he call'd by no other Name?

A. *This is the Name whereby he shall be call'd, THE LORD OUR RIGHTEOUSNESS.* Jer. xxiii. 6.

Q. What more Names hath the Son of God?

A. *The Word.* John i. 1. *The mighty God, the everlasting Father.* Isaiah ix. 6.

Q. Is Jesus very God?

A. *He is over all, God blessed for ever.* Rom. ix. 5.

Q. Did the Prophets confess this?

A. *David saith to the Son, thy Throne, O God, is for ever and ever.* Heb. i. 8.

Q. But is not Christ inferior to the Father?

A. *He thought it no Robbery to be equal with God.* Phil. ii. 6.

Q. Is there then no Difference in the Godhead of the Father, and of the Son?

A. *Jesus saith, I and the Father are one.* John x. 30.

Q. Have any seen the Son of God?

A. *John saith, the Word was made Flesh, and dwelt among us, and we beheld his Glory, the Glory as of the only begotten of the Father, full of Grace and Truth.* John i. 14.

Q. In what Form did he appear?

A. *In the Form of a Servant, and was made in the Likeness of Men.* Phil. ii. 7.

Q. What, like sinful Men?

A. *God sent his own Son in the Likeness of sinful Flesh.* Rom. viii. 3.

Q. Was he subject to like Infirmities with us?

A. *He was weary with his Journey.* John iv. 6. *He was an hunger'd.* Matt. xxi. 18. *He said, I thirst.* John xix. 28.

Q. Was

Q. Was he in every Respect as we are?

A. In all Things it behov'd him to be like unto his Brethren. Heb. ii. 17.

Q. But was he also tempted?

A. He was in all Points tempted, like as we are, yet without Sin. Heb. iv. 15.

Q. Did Jesus die?

A. He became obedient to Death, even the Death of the Cross. Phil. ii. 8.

Q. Could he be the eternal God, and yet die?

A. Hereby perceive we the Love of God, because he laid down his Life for us. 1 John iii. 16.

Q. Why was he tempted and subject to Infirmities?

A. That he might be a merciful and faithful High-Priest in Things pertaining to God, to make Reconciliation for the Sins of the People; for in that he himself hath suffered, being tempted, he is able to succour them that are tempted. Heb. ii. 17, 18.

Q. And why was he slain?

A. Christ died for our Sins. 1 Cor. xv. 3. To redeem us to God. Rev. v. 9.

Q. Did he effect this by dying?

A. Yes, He hath reconcil'd us to God, thro' the Blood of his Cross. Ephes. ii. 16. Col. i. 20.

Q. Did he bear our Blame when he reconcil'd us to the Father?

A. The Lord hath laid on him the Iniquities of us all. Isaiah liii. 6. His own self bare our Sins in his own Body on the Tree. 1 Pet. ii. 24.

Q. And did God visit our Sins on his Son?

A. It pleas'd the Lord to bruise him, he hath put him to Grief; but he was wounded for our Transgressions: He was bruised for our Iniquities. Isaiah liii. 5. 10.

Q. So he gave up himself for us as an Offering, did he not?

A. He made his Soul an Offering for Sin. Isaiah liii. 10. He was sacrificed for us. 1 Cor. v. 7.

Q. Was the Father satisfied with this?

A. He was well pleas'd. 2 Pet. i. 17.

Q. What did the Devil do whilst the Lord Jesus was delivering the Souls out of his Hand?

A. He made War with him. Rev. xii.

Q. Did

Q. Did he strive hard with our Saviour?

A. *He tempted him.* Matt. iv. 3.

Q. How long?

A. *He was in the Wilderness forty Days and forty Nights, tempted of Satan.* Mark i. 13. Mat. iv. 2.

Q. Did the Devil leave him then?

A. *He departed from him for a Season.* Luke iv. 13.

Q. Did he trouble our Saviour any more after this?

A. *The Prince of this World came again, but had nothing in him.* John xiv. 30.

Q. How did our Saviour behave in his Temptations?

A. *His Soul was exceeding sorrowful, even to Death. He fell on his Face, and prayed.* Matt. xxvi. 38, 39.

Q. Did the Devil get any Advantage against him?

A. *He bruised his Heel.* Gen. iii. 15.

Q. But did he overcome our Saviour?

A. *He prevailed not.* Rev. xii. 8.

Q. What did Jesus do to the Devil?

A. *He bruised his Head.* Gen. iii. 15. *He destroyed him.* Heb. ii. 14.

Q. What then?

A. *Having spoiled Principalities and Powers he made a Shew of them openly.* Col. ii. 15.

Q. What became of Jesus after he was dead?

A. *He was buried.* I Cor. xv. 4.

Q. Where went our Saviour's Spirit after he died?

A. *To Paradise.* Luke xxiii. 43.

Q. Did he leave his Body in the Grave?

A. *He rose again the third Day according to the Scriptures.* I Cor. xv. 4.

Q. For what?

A. *He was raised again for our Justification.* Rom. iv. 25.

Q. Who can tell he rose again?

A. *He was seen of Cephas, then of the Twelve, after that he was seen of above five hundred Brethren at once.* I Cor. xv. 5, 6.

Q. Were they sure it was he?

A. *He shewed them his Hands, and his Feet.* Luke xxiv. 40. *He said to Thomas, reach hither thy Finger, and behold my Hands, and reach hither thy Hand, and thrust it into my Side!* John xx. 27.

Q. And

Q. And was Thomas out of Doubt?

A. He said unto him, my Lord, and my God. John xx. 28.

Q. And were all the Disciples convinced?

A. He shewed himself to them alive after his Passion, by many infallible Proofs, being seen of them forty Days, and speaking of the Things pertaining to the Kingdom of God. Acts i. 3.

Q. What happen'd after this?

A. He led them out as far as Bethany, and he lifted up his Hands and blessed them; and it came to pass while he blessed them, he was parted from them, and carried up into Heaven. Luke xxiv. 50, 51.

Q. To what End is he ascended?

A. To make Intercession for us. Rom. viii. 34.

Q. Will our Saviour have any Reward for all his Pain?

A. Because he hath pour'd out his Soul unto Death, God will divide him a great Portion, he shall divide the Spoil with the strong. Isaiah liii. 12.

Q. Will He have many Souls for his Reward?

A. Yes, a great Multitude which no Man can number. Rev. vii. 9.

Q. And will the Father do him great Honour beside?

A. God also hath highly exalted him, and given him a Name which is above every Name: that at the Name of Jesus every Knee should bow, of Things in Heaven, and Things in Earth, and Things under the Earth, and that every Tongue should confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the Glory of God the Father. Phil. ii. 9, 10, 11.

Q. How must the Angels honour Jesus?

A. When God bringeth in the First-begotten into the World he saith, let all the Angels of God worship him. Heb. i. 6.

Q. How are Men to honour him?

A. The Father hath committed all Judgment to the Son, that all Men should honour the Son, even as they honour the Father. He that honoureth not the Son, honoureth not the Father. John v. 22, 23.

Q. Did the Apostles pay Jesus divine Homage?

A. They worshipped Him. Luke xxiv. 52.

B

Q. Who

Q. Who is the Holy Ghost?

A. *The Spirit of Truth which proceedeth from the Father.* John xv. 26.

Q. Is he called by no other Name in Scripture?

A. *Yes, the Comforter.* John xiv. 26.

Q. Was this Spirit in the Saints?

A. *The Spirit of Christ was in them.* 1 Pet. i. 11. *Holy Men of God spake as they were moved by the Holy Ghost.* 2 Pet. i. 21.

Q. Do all Men receive this Spirit?

A. *The World cannot receive him.* John xiv. 17.

Q. Who do receive him?

A. *Them that believe on his Name.* John i. 12.

Q. Is the Holy Ghost to be receiv'd by every Believer?

A. *The Promise is unto you, and to your Children, and to all that are afar off, even as many as the Lord our God shall call.* Acts ii. 38, 39.

Q. And can none be saved but such as have received the Holy Ghost?

A. *If any Man have not the Spirit of Christ, he is none of his.* Rom. viii. 9.

Q. Is the Holy Ghost very God?

A. *Peter said to Ananias, why hath Satan filled thine Heart to lie to the Holy Ghost? Thou hast not lyed unto Men, but to God.* Acts v. 3, 4.

Q. Is the Father, the Son, and the Holy Ghost but one God?

A. *There are three that bear Record in Heaven, the Father, the Word, and the Holy Ghost; and these three are one.* 1 John v. 7.

Q. Where is God?

A. *Thus saith the high and lofty ONE that inhabiteth Eternity, whose Name is holy, I dwell in the high and holy Place, with him also that is of a contrite and humble Spirit.* Isaiah lvii. 15.

Q. Is God in Heaven then, and with Men too!

A. *Our God is in the Heavens.* Psalm cxv. 3. *The Tabernacle of God is with Men.* Rev. xxi. 3. *God hath said, I will dwell in them, and walk in them.* 2 Cor. vi. 16.

Q. Will he receive Worship from Men?

A. *As*

A. *As I live, saith the Lord, every Knee shall bow to*
Rom. xiv. 11.

Q. How will God be worshipped?

A. *In Spirit and Truth. John iv. 24.*

Q. Where is the right Place of Worship?

A. *Where two or three are gathered together in his*
Name. Matt. xviii. 20.

Q. But had not the Lord rather be worshipped in a
 Temple than in any other Place?

A. *Solomon built him an House; howbeit the most*
High dwelleth not in Temples made with Hands. Acts vii.
47, 48. Our Bodies are the Temples of the Holy Ghost.
1 Cor. vi. 19.

Q. Do any know the Lord, and live?

A. *Yes, He hath given us an Understanding that we*
may know him. 1 John v. 20.

Q. Do all Men know him?

A. *Some have not the Knowledge of God. 1 Cor. xv. 34.*

Q. Who are they who know the Lord?

A. *Jesus saith, my Sheep know my Voice: I am known*
of mine, John x. 4, 14.

Q. Perhaps only a few of the most eminent of these
 are acquainted with the Lord?

A. *They shall all know me from the least of them to the*
greatest of them, saith the Lord, Jer. xxxi. 34.

Q. Do the Children of God esteem this Knowledge?

A. *St. Paul saith, yea doubtless I count all Things but*
Loss for the Excellency of the Knowledge of Christ Jesus
my Lord, Phil. iii. 8.

Q. Is it then a great Blessing to know our Saviour?

A. *Acquaint now thyself with him, and be at Peace,*
thereby Good shall come unto thee, Job xxii. 21.

Q. What, will they be saved who know him?

A. *Jesus saith, I give unto them eternal Life, and*
they shall never perish, neither shall any pluck them out of
my Hand, John x. 28.

Q. How will they do, who don't know him?

A. *The Lord Jesus shall be reveal'd from Heaven, with*
his mighty Angels, in flaming Fire, taking Vengeance on
them that know not God, 2 Thes. i. 7, 8.

Q. Pray how may one get this Knowledge?

A. *All shall be taught of God, John. vi. 45.*

Q. How shall one get to God to learn this of him?

A. *Jesus saith, I am the Way,—no Man cometh to the Father, but by me, John xiv. 6.*

Q. Where shall I find the Lord Jesus?

A. *Nigh thee, even in thy Mouth and in thy Heart, Rom. x. 8.*

SECT. II.

Of the Fall of Man, and of the New-Birth.

Q. **W**H O was the first Man?

A. *Adam was first formed, 1 Tim. ii. 13.*

Q. How did God create him?

A. *In his own Image, in the Image of God, Gen. i. 27. God made Man upright, Eccl. vii. 29.*

Q. Out of what did the Lord make Adam?

A. *The Lord God formed Man of the Dust of the Ground, and breathed into his Nostrils the Breath of Life, and Man became a living Soul, Gen. ii. 7.*

Q. Was he happy then?

A. *God blest'd him, Gen. i. 28.*

Q. Did he live by himself?

A. *The Lord God said, it is not good that the Man should be alone, I will make him an Help-meet for him, Gen. ii. 18.*

Q. Was he denied any Thing in this Estate?

A. *The Lord God commanded the Man saying, of every Tree of the Garden, thou mayest freely eat, but of the Tree of Knowledge of Good and Evil, thou shalt not eat of it, for in the Day thou eatest thereof, thou shalt surely die, Gen. ii. 16, 17.*

Q. Was Adam and Eve obedient?

A. *When the Woman saw that the Tree was good for Food, and that it was pleasant to the Eyes, and a Tree to be desired to make one wise, she took of the Fruit thereof and did eat, and gave also to her Husband with her, and he did eat, Gen. iii. 6.*

Q. How did they dare to Sin thus?

A. *The*

A. *The Woman being deceiv'd, 1 Tim. ii. 14.*

Q. Who deceiv'd her?

A. *The Serpent beguiled Eve thro' his Subtilty, 2 Cor.*

xi. 3.

Q. What Serpent?

A. *The Dragon, that old Serpent, called the Devil, and Satan which deceiveth the whole World, Rev. xii. 9.*

Q. What followed Adam's Transgression?

A. *In Adam all died, 1 Cor. xv. 22. By one Man's Disobedience all were made Sinners, Rom. v. 19.*

Q. Was not God very angry with Adam?

A. *Unto Adam he said, because thou hast hearkened unto the Voice of thy Wife, and hast eaten of the Tree of which I commanded thee, saying, thou shalt not eat of it, cursed is the Ground for thy Sake, in Sorrow shalt thou eat of it all the Days of thy Life, Gen. iii. 17.*

Q. Did the Lord curse the Woman too?

A. *Unto the Woman he said, I will greatly multiply thy Sorrow, and thy Conception; in Sorrow shalt thou bring forth Children: thy Desire shall be to thine Husband, and he shall rule over thee—Gen. iii. 16.*

Q. Did then the Condemnation reach no farther?

A. *Yes, for by the Offence of one, Judgment came upon all Men to Condemnation—Rom. v. 18.*

Q. Are all then together with Adam become sinful, and fallen, and lost alike?

A. *The whole World lieth in Wickedness, 1 John v. 19. All have sinned, and come short of the Glory of God, Rom. iii. 23. All are gone aside, they are altogether become filthy, Psal. xiv. 3.*

Q. Are we reckoned Sinners from our Birth?

A. *God saith, Thou wast called a Transgressor from the Womb, Isa. xlvi. 8. The Imaginations of Mans Heart is evil from his Youth, Gen. viii. 21.*

Q. But are we not born Innocent?

A. *David saith, I was shapen in Iniquity, and in Sin did my Mother conceive me, Psal. li. 5.*

Q. Is the Sin of the Fall then so universally spread throughout all Mankind, that none can be born Innocent?

A. *Who can bring a clean Thing out of an unclean? not one, Job. xiv. 4.*

Q. But

Q. But have not Men Power to make themselves clean, and to do away their Sin?

A. *Tho' thou wash thee with Nitre, and take thee much Soap, yet thine Iniquity is marked before me, saith the Lord God, Jer. ii. 22.*

Q. Are not Men very ignorant of their being in so sad a Condition?

A. *God saith, thou saist, I am rich, and encreas'd with Goods, and have need of nothing, and knowest not that thou art wretched, and miserable, and poor, and blind, and naked, Rev. iii. 17.*

Q. What if one should die in his natural State?

A. *Verily, verily, I say unto thee, except a Man be born again, he cannot see the Kingdom of God, John iii. 3.*

Q. How can he be born again?

A. *Of Water, and of the Spirit, John iii. 5.*

Q. Who are born again?

A. *Whosoever believeth that Jesus is the Christ, is born of God, 1 John v. 1.*

Q. Pray how doth one born again differ from others?

A. *He hath put off the Old-Man with his Deeds, and hath put on the New-Man, which is renewed in Knowledge, after the Image of him that created him, Col. iii. 9.*

Q. Then the New-Birth makes a great Change in a Believer?

A. *He is a New-Creature; Old Things are passed away, behold all Things are become new, 2 Cor. v. 17.*

Q. Is not such an one highly favoured?

A. *He is in him that is true, even in his Son Jesus Christ, he sinneth not, he overcometh the World, 1 John v. 4, 18, 20.*

Q. Hath such an one no Sin?

A. *If we say we have no Sin, we deceive ourselves, and the Truth is not in us, 1 John i. 8.*

Q. But are they preserved from falling in the Acts of Sin more than others?

A. *Sin shall not have Dominion over them, Rom. vi. 14.*

Q. How do they get the Victory when they are tempted?

A. *Thro'*

A. Thro' him that loved us, Rom. viii. 37. thro' our Lord Jesus Christ, 1 Cor. xv. 57.

Q. May they not fall from this Grace?

A. The everlasting Arms are underneath them, Deut. xxxiii. 27. A Thousand shall fall beside them, and ten Thousand at their Right-hand, but it shall not come nigh them, Psal. xci. 7.

S E C T. III.

Of the Law.

Q. WHAT is the Law?

A. The Commandments of God, Mark vii. 9.

Q. Are the Commandments pure, and the Law reasonable, and right to be observed?

A. The Law is holy, and the Commandments holy, and just and good, Rom. vii. 12.

Q. Will it go well with those who keep the Law?

A. If thou shalt hearken diligently unto the Voice of the Lord thy God, to observe, and to do all his Commandments, all these Blessings shall come upon thee, &c. Deut. xxviii. 1.

Q. But if any one breaks the Law?

A. Cursed be every one that continues not in all Things which are written in the Book of the Law to do them, Gal. iii. 10.

Q. If a Man keeps as many Commandments as he can, will he not escape the Curse?

A. Whosoever shall keep the whole Law, and yet offend in one Point, he is guilty of all, Jam. ii. 10.

Q. Do any keep the whole Law without Sin?

A. None of you keepeth the Law, John vii. 19. In many Things we offend all, Jam. iii. 2.

Q. Why then all are under the Curse?

A. As many as are under the Law are under the Curse, Gal. iii. 10.

Q. How may one get delivered?

A. Christ hath redeemed us from the Curse of the Law, being made a Curse for us, Gal. iii. 13.

Q. Is

Q. Is there no Possibility of obtaining Righteousness by keeping the Law?

A. *If Righteousness come by the Law, then Christ is dead in vain, Gal. ii. 21.*

Q. Are none justified by observing the Law?

A. *By the Deeds of the Law there shall no Flesh be justified, in the Sight of God, Rom. iii. 20.*

Q. Wherefore then serveth the Law, of what Use is it?

A. *By the Law is the Knowledge of Sin, Rom. iii. 20.*

Q. Should we not have found out that we were Sinners without the Law?

A. *St. Paul saith, I had not known Sin, but by the Law, for I had not known Concupiscence (or Lust) except the Law had said, thou shalt not covet, Rom. vii. 7.*

Q. But is not the Law the Old-Covenant, or Testament, which God made with our Fathers, and is to stand?

A. *The Old-Testament is done away in Christ, 2 Cor. iii. 14.*

Q. Was not the Covenant given to Moses by the Hands of Angels then to continue?

A. *It was to be done away, 2 Cor. iii. 11. God found fault with it, Heb. viii. 7, 8.*

Q. Make this plain?

A. *If the first Covenant had been faultless, then should no Place been sought for the second; but finding fault with them, he saith, behold the Days come, saith the Lord, when I will make a new Covenant with the House of Israel, and with the House of Judah, not according (or like) to the Covenant I made with their Fathers, Heb. viii. 7, 8, 9.*

Q. How long was the Law design'd to continue?

A. *'Till the Seed (Christ) should come, Gal. iii. 19.*

Q. Doth the Law do us any good then?

A. *The Law was our School-master to bring us to Christ, that we might be justified by Faith, Gal. iii. 24.*

Q. When we believe in Jesus, what then?

A. *After that Faith is come, we are no longer under a Schoolmaster, Gal. iii. 25.*

Q. Are Believers not under the Law?

A. *We*

A. We are not under the Law, but under Grace, Rom. vi. 14. We are delivered from the Law, Rom. vii. 6.

Q. Cannot the Law condemn a Child of God?

A. There is therefore now no Condemnation to them which are in Christ Jesus, Rom. viii. 1.

Q. If so, then may not the Children of God sin, and do what they will, seeing they cannot be condemned?

*A. God forbid — how shall we that are dead to Sin, live any longer therein? Rom. vi. 2. being not without * Law to God, but under the Law (or, in a Law) to Christ, 1 Cor. ix. 21.*

Q. Pray make this Matter plain; you say the Children of God are not under the Law, and yet are in a Law to Christ, from what Law are they deliver'd?

A. The Law of Moses, Acts xiii. 39.

Q. How are Believers deliver'd from the Law of Moses?

A. We are become dead to the Law by the Body of Christ, that we should be married to another, even to him that is rais'd from the Dead, that we should bring forth Fruit unto God. Rom. vii. 4.

Q. What Fruit do such bring forth?

A. The Fruit of the Spirit. Gal. v. 22.

Q. What is the Fruit of the Spirit?

A. The Fruit of the Spirit is Love, Joy, Peace, Long-suffering, Gentleness, Goodness, Faith, Meekness, Temperance, against such there is no Law.

Q. But are Believers married to Christ?

A. Their Maker is their Husband, Isa. xlv. 5.

Q. So then after they are married, all their Debts and Sins are charg'd upon their Husband Christ, and the Law makes its Demands of Righteousness on him, and thus is the Sinner free I suppose?

A. It is Truth, Isa. xliii. 9.

Q. And did our Saviour take all our Debts and Sins on himself, and fulfil the Demands of the Law?

A. He bare our Iniquities, Isa. liii. 11. He fulfilled all Righteousness, Mat. iii. 15.

Q. And are Believers truly free in every respect, from Sin, and from the Law?

A. *We are free indeed, John viii. 36.*

Q. Then under what Law are the Children of God?

A. *The Law of the Spirit of Life, Rom. viii. 2. The Law of Liberty, Jam. i. 25.*

Q. Pray what is the Law of Liberty?

A. *This is his Commandment, that we should believe on the Name of his Son Jesus Christ, and love one another as he gave us Commandment, 1 John iii. 23.*

Q. Then we are to keep the Law of Love?

A. *Jesus saith, These Things I command you, that ye love one another, John xv. 12, 17.*

Q. Do this Obedience of Love shew itself in all the People of God?

A. *He saith, by this shall Men know that ye are my Disciples, if ye love one another, John xiii. 25.*

Q. How is it with such as have Faith, working thus by Love?

A. *They fulfil the Law, Rom. xiii. 8.*

Q. How?

A. *We love God, 1 John iv. 19. We love the Brethren, 1 John iii. 14.*

Q. Make this plain?

A. *All the Law is fulfilled in one Word, even in this, thou shalt love thy Neighbour as thyself, Gal. v. 14. To love God with all the Heart, is more than all whole Burnt Offerings and Sacrifices, Mark. xii. 33. Therefore Love is the fulfilling of the Law, Rom. xiii. 10.*

Q. Then if a Man doth very much, and strives hard in Works, I suppose it is nothing without this Love, is it?

A. *Tho' I speak with the Tongues of Men, and Angels, and tho' I have the Gift of Prophecy, and understand all Mysteries, and all Knowledge, and tho' I have all Faith, so that I could remove Mountains, and tho' I bestow all my Goods to feed the Poor, and tho' I give my Body to be burned, and have not Charity (or Love) it profiteth me nothing, 1 Cor. xiii. 1, 2, 3.*

Q. Whence cometh this Love?

A. *The*

A. The Love of God is shed abroad in our Hearts by the Holy Ghost, Rom. v. 5.

Q. Can't it be merited or purchased?

A. If a Man would give all the Substance of his House for Love, it would utterly be contemned, Cant. viii. 7.

Q. Do they enjoy great Blessings that have the Love of God shed abroad in their Hearts?

A. Every one that loveth is born of God, and knoweth God. He that dwelleth in Love, dwelleth in God and God in Him; and this perfect Love casteth out Fear, 1 John iv. 7, 16, 18.

SECT. IV.

Of the Gospel.

Q. WHAT is the Gospel?

A. Good Tidings, Luke ii. 10. Isa. lxi. 1.

Q. What are the good Tidings?

A. That God was in Christ reconciling the World to himself, not imputing their Trespases unto them, 2 Cor. v. 19. That Christ Jesus came into the World to save Sinners, 1 Tim. i. 15. — That Christ was made Sin for us who knew no Sin, that we might be made the Righteousness of God in him, 2 Cor. v. 21. — That Christ has redeemed us from the Curse of the Law, being made a Curse for us, Gal. iii. 13. — That God hath given to us eternal Life, and this Life is in his Son, 1 John v. 11. — That God so loved the World, that he gave his only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth on him shall not perish, but have everlasting Life, John iii. 16.

Q. To whom is this Gospel to be preached?

A. To every Creature, Mark xvi. 15. To all People, Luke ii. 10.

Q. But have all heard the Gospel?

A. Yes, verily, their Sound went into all the Earth, and their Words unto the Ends of the World, Rom. x. 18.

Q. Did our Fathers before Christ came in the Flesh, hear the Gospel?

A. The Scripture foreseeing that God would justify the Heathen thro' Faith preached before the Gospel to Abraham, Gal. iii. 8.

Q. And had all the Children of Israel the Gospel?

A. Unto us was the Gospel preached, as well as unto them, but the Word preached did not profit them, not being mixed with Faith in them that heard it, Heb. iv. 2.

Q. Is the Gospel hid from any?

A. If our Gospel be hid, it is hid from them that are lost, in whom the God of this World hath blinded the Minds of them that believe not, lest the Light of the glorious Gospel of Christ, who is the Image of God, should shine unto them, 2 Cor. iv. 3.

Q. What becomes of them who believe not?

A. He that believeth not shall be damned, Mark xvi. 16.

Q. What Blessings come from the Preaching the Gospel?

A. Christ hath brought Life, and Immortality to Light by the Gospel, 2 Tim. i. 10.

Q. What if one believes the Gospel?

A. He that believeth shall be saved, Mark xvi. 16. By Jesus all that believe are justified from all Things, from which they could not be justified by the Law of Moses, Acts xiii. 39.

Q. Is the Gospel Dispensation to continue, or to decay, as did the Law?

A. It is an everlasting Gospel, Rev. xiv. 6.

Q. What is this called beside in Scripture?

A. The New Testament (or new Covenant, or Will) Luke xxii. 20. Jer. xxxi. 31.

Q. How was this Covenant made?

A. Of God in Christ, Gal. iii. 17.

Q. When?

A. Before the Foundation of the World, Eph. i. 4.

Q. Did God establish this Covenant?

A. He confirmed the same unto Jacob for a Law, and to Israel for an everlasting Covenant, Psalm cv. 10.

Q. To

Q. To whom did God first confirm this Covenant ?

A. To Abraham and to his Seed, Gal. iii. 16.

Q. Who are the Seed of Abraham ?

A. They which are of Faith, the same are the Children of Abraham, Gal. iii. 7.

Q. How did the Lord confirm his Testament to Abraham ?

A. God gave it to him by Promise, Gal. iii. 18.

Q. Was that all that God did to confirm his Covenant ?

A. When God made Promise to Abraham, because he could swear by no greater, he swore by himself, saying, surely I will bless thee, and being willing more abundantly to shew unto the Heirs of Promise the Immutability of his Counsel, he confirmed it by an Oath, Heb. vi. 13, &c.

Q. But doth not the Covenant of Works or the Law of Moses, made many Years after, make the Covenant of Grace void ?

A. This I say, that the Covenant that was confirmed before of God in Christ, the Law which was four hundred and thirty Years after cannot disannul, that it should make the Promise of none Effect. Gal. iii. 17.

Q. To what Purpose then serveth the Law ?

A. It was added because of Transgressions, 'till the Seed (i. e. Christ) should come, to whom the Promise was made. Gal. iii. 19.

Q. 'Till by Faith we have found Christ come in our Heart, are we all under the Law then ?

A. Before Faith came, we were kept under the Law, shut up unto the Faith which should afterwards be revealed. Gal. iii. 23.

Q. Are we then delivered when by Faith we receive Christ ?

A. Christ is an End of the Law for Righteousness to every one that believeth. Rom. x. 4.

SECT.

[22]

S E C T. V.

Of Salvation by **C H R I S T** alone.

Q. **W**H Y is Christ call'd *Jesus* and Saviour?

A. *Thou shalt call his Name Jesus, for he shall save his People from their Sins.* Matt. i. 21.

Q. But don't we help save ourselves?

A. *He saith, I looked, and there was none to help, and I wonder'd that there was none to uphold, therefore mine own Arm brought Salvation unto me. Of the People there was none with me.* Isai. lxiii. 3, 5.

Q. Is there no other Saviour besides *Jesus Christ*?

A. *He saith, beside me there is no Saviour.* Hosea xiii. 4.

Q. Suppose one don't put so much Trust in him, but do all the Good one can, and live soberly and honestly; will not such an one be saved?

A. *Other Foundation can no Man lay than that is laid, which is Jesus Christ. Neither is Salvation in any other, for there is none other Name under Heaven given among Men whereby we must be saved.* Acts iv. 12. 1 Cor. iii. 11.

Q. But is it not necessary for us to do our Part, before we can expect Christ to save us?

A. *He saith, I am Alpha and Omega, the Beginning and the End, the First and the Last: And without me you can do nothing.* Rev. xxii. 13. John xv. 5.

Q. But the Learned, who are Builders, and Preachers, say, we must do our Duty first, and then trust to Christ?

A. *Christ is the Stone which the Builders set at nought, but is become the Head-Stone in the Corner.* Acts iv. 11.

Q. Do such as say, we must begin to be righteous, and then *Christ* will make up our Deficiency, err then?

A. *They err, not knowing the Scriptures, nor the Power of God.* Matt. xxii. 29.

Q. How?

A. *They teach for Doctrines the Commandments of Men.* Matt. xv. 9.

Q. What is true Doctrine?

A. *Seek*

A. *Seek ye first, the Kingdom of God and his Righteousness.* Matt. vi. 33.

Q. But what if a Minister preach otherwise, saying, we must first seek to make ourselves as righteous as we can?

A. *If any preach unto you any other Gospel, than that you have received, let him be accursed.* Gal. i. 9.

Q. Did Jesus Christ save the Prophets, and Fathers?

A. *The Angel of his Presence saved them. He was their Saviour. David saith, he is my Saviour.* Isaiah lxiii. 8, 9. 2 Sam. xxii. 3.

Q. How did they find Salvation in him?

A. *They trusted in him.* Psalm xxii. 4. *They believed.* Heb. xi.

Q. Are all safe that put their Trust in him?

A. *Blessed is the Man that trusteth in him,* Psalm xxxiv. 8.

Q. How did the Lord redeem the People?

A. *He gave himself for us, that he might redeem us from all Iniquity.* Tit. ii. 14. *Ye were not redeem'd with corruptible Things, as Silver and Gold, from your vain Conversation, but with the precious Blood of Christ, as of a Lamb without Blemish, and without Spot.* 1 Pet. i. 18, 19.

Q. Could he not have saved us without dying?

A. *Without shedding of Blood is no Remission.* Heb. ix. 22.

Q. Is it the Blood of our Saviour then that doth all?

A. *He hath redeem'd us to God by his Blood.* Rev. v. 9. *He hath wash'd us from our Sins in his own Blood.* Rev. i. 5. *He hath made Peace by the Blood of his Cross.* Col. i. 20. *We are made nigh by his Blood.* Ephes. ii. 13. *We are justified by his Blood.* Rom. v. 9. *We are sanctified by his Blood.* Heb. xiii. 12. *We overcome by his Blood.* Rev. xii. 11.

Q. Surely his Blood must be highly esteem'd by the Saints?

A. *It is precious Blood.* 1 Pet. i. 19.

Q. By his Death hath our Saviour abolish'd Sin in Believers?

A. *He hath put away Sin by the Sacrifice of himself.* Heb. ix. 26.

Q. Will God remember it no more?

A. *He*

A. *He will remember their Sin no more.* Jer. xxxi. 34.
Christ came to finish the Transgression, to make an End of Sins, to make Reconciliation for Iniquity, and to bring in everlasting Righteousness. Dan. ix. 24.

Q. Are we made so compleat, thro' the Death and Blood of Christ, that nothing more is wanting?

A. *By one Offering he hath perfected them for ever.* Heb. x. 14.

Q. Then the Redemption was finished on the Cross?

A. *Christ said, It is finished, and bowed his Head, and gave up the Ghost.* John xix. 30.

S E C T. VI.

Of Justification by Faith.

Q. WHAT is Faith?

A. *Faith is the Substance of Things hoped for; the Evidence of Things not seen.* Heb. xi. 1.

Q. If one hath Faith, and hopes for Heaven, hath he then the Substance of Heaven in him?

A. *The Kingdom of God is in him. Christ is in him the Hope of Glory.* Col. i. 27. Luke xvii. 21.

Q. Make this plain; you say Faith is the Substance of Things hoped for, if then a Man believeth truly in Christ, and hopes for eternal Salvation, hath he the Substance of it therefore?

A. *He receiveth the End of his Faith, even the Salvation of his Soul.* 1 Pet. i. 9.

Q. And he that believeth, but hath not seen Jesus, hath he the Evidence or Testimony of Christ in him?

A. *He that believeth on the Son of God hath the Witness in himself.* 1 John v. 10.

Q. Is such a Faith as this you speak of necessary?

A. *He that cometh to God must believe.* Heb. xi. 6.

Q. Have all Men got it?

A. *All Men have not Faith.* 2 Thes. iii. 2.

Q. Is Faith to be obtained by Art?

A. *It is the Gift of God.* Ephes. ii. 8. Phil. i. 29.

Q. Don't good Works (so called) please God tho' one be without this Faith?

A. *Without*

